

Green Q2: Biodiversity Dialogue

Question 2

Under your school's heading, answer the following questions:

Looking at Canada's level of success with the biodiversity goals, how do you think Canada can improve for the upcoming decade of ocean science?

- **What should be priorities in the decade of ocean science**
- **What stakeholders should be involved in the conversations about conservation?**
- **What evidence will be needed to support these arguments?**

Saint John, Harbour View High School

In order for Canada to improve for the upcoming decade of ocean science, our priorities should be to focus on more sustainable fishing practices, especially since that is one of the reasons that there are so many different species that are endangered. As well, we need stricter regulations to prevent this and to protect our oceans. Even when buying fish at the supermarket, there is a non mandatory label that tells us if it was sustainably sourced, and it would be beneficial if it was a requirement.

In order for this to be passed, our government should be involved in ensuring that these big corporate companies are kept under control and are supervised as they hold responsibility for a large portion of our ocean's wildlife and its protection. However, the solution is not that simple because it is their brand that is being affected. We need to present a reasonable clean solution when faced with this adversity, and allow these companies to also have a voice in the solution. We need to harness this bond between companies and the environment, and to create a trusting relationship so that we can openly discuss the process instead of forcing it.

Everyone can be a part of this in one way or another through either a volunteer opportunity, a school club, or a community outreach program.

Canning, Northeast Kings Education Centre

Canada can involve itself into protecting international waters which are beyond the borders of Canada. Canada should also further involve itself in researching our impact on our oceans. As we further understand Canada's impact on the environment, we

can understand how we impact the ocean.

Stakeholders

Everyone. Stakeholders that should be involved are Canada's schools, community members, or even clubs. Together we can stand as a united front for climate change action.

Information

People seem to respond to visual information, and information that applies to their lives, and doesn't seem so far removed from their everyday lives.

Brampton, David Suzuki

In the decade of ocean science, a major prioritization should be in maintaining the cleanliness of our oceans, as well as doing our best to ensure that ocean levels don't end up rising to dangerous levels. Stakeholders that should be considered would include what is currently happening in our oceans, such as waste being disposed in them, lack of regulation by national supervision, and how it affects ocean biodiversity. Necessary evidence that would be required would include actual photo evidence of polluted waters, as well as statistical evidence that is empirically collected for the focus of assessing ocean pollution quantities to establish various goals and checkpoints that will contribute towards the negation of ocean pollution.

Winnipeg, Collège Jeanne-Sauvé

Regina, Winston Knoll Collegiate

Our three primary concerns regarding ocean science are

- Oil spills
- Overfishing
- Plastic Pollution

Canada is very involved in the oil business and therefore contributes to a lot of oil spills. Just this summer, an oil spill in NFL occurred which causes 12000 L of oil to spill into the ocean. Oil spills have a detrimental impact on aquatic life and are very hard to clean up. Overfishing and poaching is still a huge issue across the globe. And plastic pollution including single use plastics and microplastics is another major issue and treat to biodiversity and ocean health.

Since we all share this planet, everyone deserves to be a stakeholder in this

conversation. Some groups who unfortunately experience a silencing of their voices include youth and indigenous peoples. Indigenous people are the original inhabitants of the land, therefore their opinions and beliefs should be paramount in making environmental decisions. And today's youth are the people who will be inheriting this land. It only makes sense that their opinions should be valued as well. I believe that those who have privilege and already have a platform have a duty to uplift and amplify the voices of those who are often silenced.

We need to reach out to the government and convince them to cut back on oil exportation until we find a more environmentally friendly way to transport it. As for fishing, there needs to be more restrictions and people who go fishing need to put more effort into learning which fish are endangered and make sure to avoid them.

Edmonton, Queen Elizabeth High School

St Albert, ESSMY

We should give more money to the cause. Without the money to start groups and spread awareness, less people will try to help. If we have more money, it will get more people involved and make it a global initiative. Once more people get involved we will be able to take a bigger step in saving our earth.

We think we need to prioritize awareness and involvement, so that we can be more effective in communication. Communication is very important, if we don't communicate then no one will know what to do as a group. It will cause confusion amongst us.

Good research facts and knowledge will be good evidence for our points. If they don't believe us, then they should believe the adults that have spent years researching on this specific topic.

Vancouver, Sentinel Secondary School

